

July 31, 2019

CORRECTED EX PARTE VIA ECFS

Marlene H. Dortch, Esq.
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Communications, *Authorizing Permissive Use of the "Next Generation" Broadcast Television Standard*, GN Docket No. 16-142

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On July 26, 2019, Kevin Leddy and Maureen O'Connell of Charter Communications met with the following:

- Michael Ha, Aspa Paroutsas, Gulmira Mustapaeva, Martin Doczkat, Rajender Razdan, and Nick Oros of the Office of Engineering and Technology;
- Martha Heller, Kim Matthews, Evan Baranoff, and John Gabrysch of the Media Bureau;
- Joel Miller of Commissioner O'Rielly's office;
- Kate Black of Commissioner Rosenworcel's office;
- Michael Scurato of Commissioner Starks' office; and
- Alex Sanjenis of Chairman Pai's office.

In these meetings, we discussed the impact of the ATSC 3.0 transition on multichannel video programming distributors (MVPDs) in connection with the carriage of ATSC 3.0 signals. We noted that ATSC 3.0 is not backwards compatible with any existing equipment in the home or in the MVPD ecosystem, and observed that broadcasters have yet to adopt standards for the equipment necessary for MVPDs to provide ATSC 3.0 signals to subscribers. The absence of such standards could delay the ATSC 3.0 transition by years for consumers who do not get their broadcast signals over the air. In this regard, we pointed to a recent report in which NAB noted that "ATSC 3.0 has over 40,000 possible configurations."¹

¹ NAB *Next Generation Television (ATSC 3.0) Station Transition Guide*, April 2019, p. 22, available at https://nabpilot.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/NAB-ATSC-3.0-Guide_Final.pdf.

We contrasted the ATSC 3.0 transition to the last big broadcaster transition -- from analog to digital -- that involved all players in the ecosystem. We also discussed the consumer benefits of the ATSC 3.0 transition, noting that broadcasters have yet to define which among those possible uses of the new standard they are interested in pursuing. We suggested that many of the uses identified are already available to consumers over the internet (such as delivery of video to mobile devices, movie downloads, data delivery to cars, and data enhancements to video), which could limit demand for ATSC 3.0 consumer equipment.

Finally, we discussed the fact that the over-the-air ATSC 1.0 signals involved in the Phoenix test market are different from the ATSC 1.0 signals being delivered by fiber, as illustrated in the attachment. Because these signals don't match, there is currently no back-up for ATSC 1.0 that can be utilized by MVPDs.

Please direct any questions to the undersigned.²

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Maureen O'Connell

Maureen O'Connell
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² Charter initially filed this ex parte on July 30, 2019, within two business days of the presentation, but withdrew it and is resubmitting it in order to correct the list of names of FCC staff in attendance at the presentation described herein. To the extent this requires a waiver of Section 1.1206(b)(2)(iii) of the Commission's rules, Charter hereby requests such a waiver. A waiver is warranted to ensure that the notice accurately memorializes the meeting and provides a complete record in this proceeding.

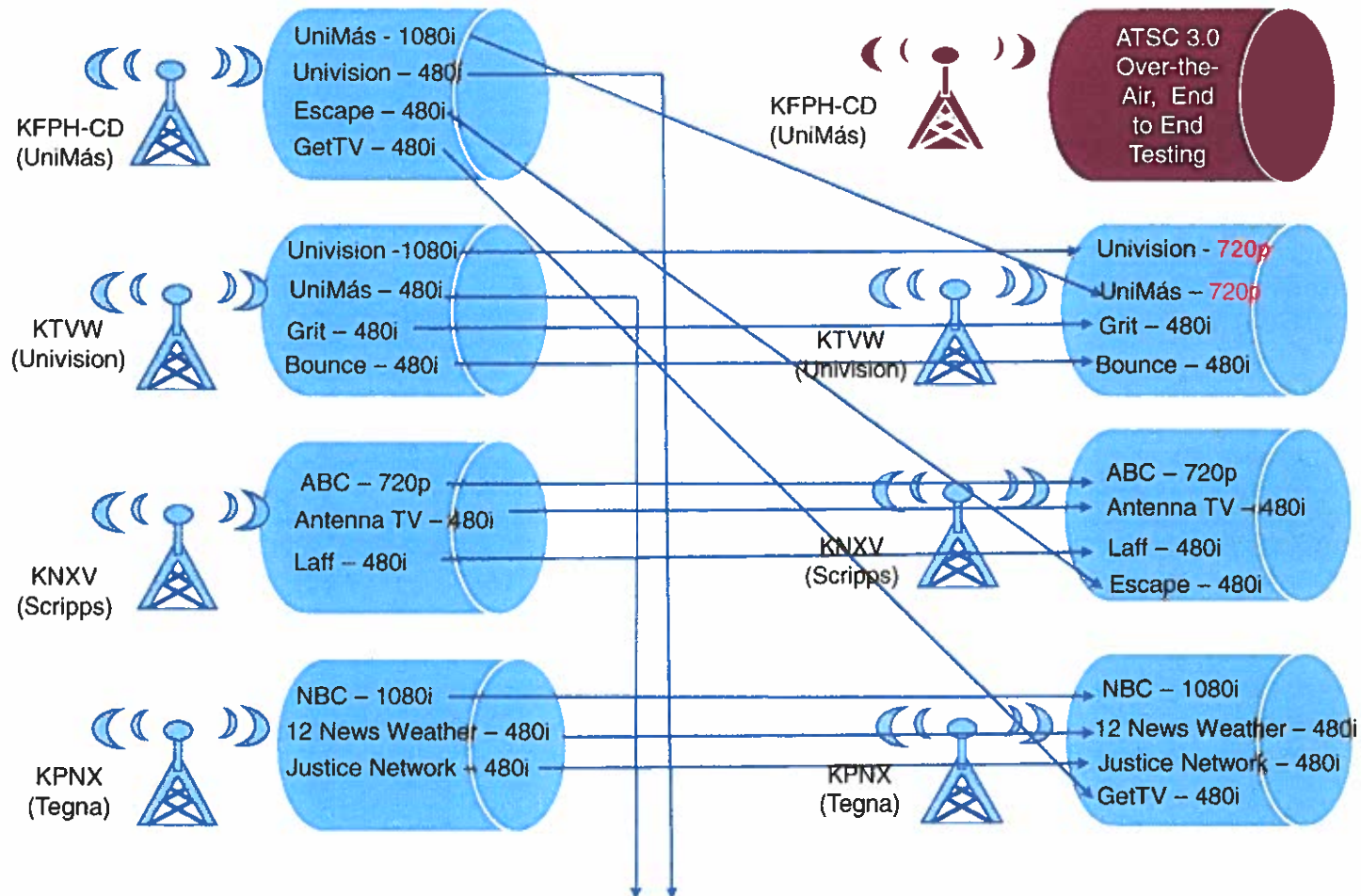


MAUREEN O'CONNELL

Vice President
Regulatory Affairs

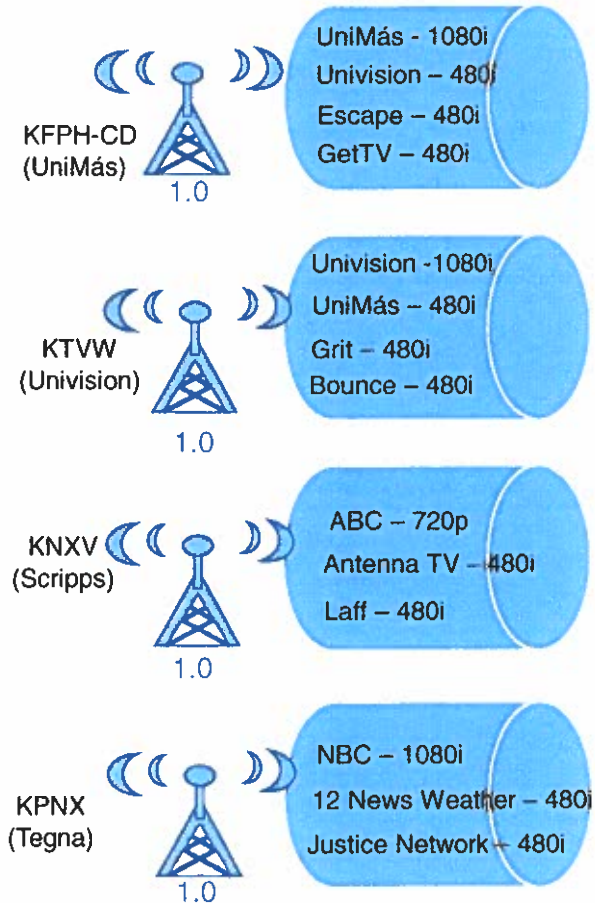
Cc: Michael Ha
Aspa Paroutsas
Gulmira Mustapaeva
Rajender Razdan
Nick Oros
Martin Doczkat
Martha Heller
Kim Matthews
Evan Baranoff
John Gabrysch
Joel Miller
Kate Black
Michael Scurato
Alex Sanjenis

Phoenix Model Market shows extensive channel sharing



Simulcast requirement will be met with lower picture quality for ATSC 1.0; OTA will not match fiber feeds

Today



Five Years

